



Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
2910 East Fifth Street Austin, Texas 78702  
512.389.7400 capmetro.org

October 7, 2019

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL AND REGULAR U.S. MAIL**

Joseph Durso  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 80707  
411A Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

**Re: Public Information Request No.: 2019-07-756**

Dear Mr. Durso:

This letter is in response to your Public Information Request which was received by Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority ("Capital Metro") on September 23, 2019. A copy of the request is attached.

Capital Metro has identified information responsive to your request. Capital Metro believes that the requested information is exempted from disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act (the "Act"), Texas Government Code, Chapter 552.

Pursuant to Section 552.301 of the Act, Capital Metro is requesting a decision from the Attorney General to determine whether the requested information must be released.

The Attorney General will render a decision of the determination and provide you with a copy of the decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Cote".

Barbara Cote, CP  
Legal Services Coordinator

Attachment

**Cote, Barbara**

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**From:** 80707-03550420@requests.muckrock.com  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 5:12 AM  
**To:** Public Information Request Mailbox  
**Subject:** Texas Public Information Act Request: MetroRail E-plan

Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
Texas Public Information Act Office  
2910 East 5th Street  
Austin, TX 78702

September 23, 2019

Greetings Public Information Officer,

Pursuant to the Texas Public Information Act, I hereby request the following records:

The current passenger train emergency preparedness plan (aka "E-plan") submitted to and approved by the FRA in accordance with 49 CFR 239 for the MetroRail system. Please include all attachments, appendices, etc.

The requested documents will be made immediately and freely available to the general public on muckrock.com, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes. If you anticipate charges will exceed \$40, I request a written statement of estimated charges.

I request that the requested records be fulfilled by email attachment.

Thanks very much for your help. Hope you are enjoying the beginning of fall.

Sincerely,

Joseph Durso

Filed via MuckRock.com

E-mail (Preferred): 80707-03550420@requests.muckrock.com

Upload documents directly:

[https://accounts.muckrock.com/accounts/login/?next=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.muckrock.com%2Faccounts%2Flogin%2F%3Fnext%3D%252Faccounts%252Fagency\\_login%252Fcapital-metropolitan-transportation-authority-18684%252Fmetrorail-e-plan-80707%252F%253Femail%253DPIR%252540capmetro.org&url\\_auth\\_token=AABkpD-rjqvwq2kJpMG\\_o8x3Kg4%3A1iCLJv%3ArV8nXpmTj9foN\\_hUlxNzSidHOg](https://accounts.muckrock.com/accounts/login/?next=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.muckrock.com%2Faccounts%2Flogin%2F%3Fnext%3D%252Faccounts%252Fagency_login%252Fcapital-metropolitan-transportation-authority-18684%252Fmetrorail-e-plan-80707%252F%253Femail%253DPIR%252540capmetro.org&url_auth_token=AABkpD-rjqvwq2kJpMG_o8x3Kg4%3A1iCLJv%3ArV8nXpmTj9foN_hUlxNzSidHOg)

Is this email coming to the wrong contact? Something else wrong? Use the above link to let us know.

For mailed responses, please address (see note):

MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 80707  
411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

PLEASE NOTE: This request is not filed by a MuckRock staff member, but is being sent through MuckRock by the above in order to better track, share, and manage public records requests. Also note that improperly addressed (i.e., with the requester's name rather than "MuckRock News" and the department number) requests might be returned as undeliverable.





Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
2910 East 10th Street Austin, Texas 78702  
512-389-7400 | [capmetro.org](http://capmetro.org)

October 7, 2019

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL: CMRRR #7007 1490 4426 0178**

The Honorable Ken Paxton  
Attorney General of Texas  
Attn: Open Records Division  
P.O. Box 12548  
Austin, Texas 78711-2548

**Re: Request for Attorney General Decision  
Public Information Request No.: 2019-09-756**

Dear General Paxton:

Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority ("**Capital Metro**") received a written request under the Public Information Act (the "**Act**") by electronic mail dated September 23, 2019 from Mr. Joseph Durso, on behalf of MuckRock News ("**MuckRock**") ("**Requestor**"). A copy of the written request is enclosed. (**See Exhibit "A"**). The Requestor is seeking the following information:

- *The current passenger train emergency preparedness plan (aka "E-plan") submitted to and approved by the FRA in accordance with 49 CFR 239 for the MetroRail system. Please include all attachments, appendices, etc.*

Capital Metro has identified information responsive to the request above. Capital Metro believes that the information responsive to the request is protected from disclosure under the Act, and on October 2, 2019, a letter was sent electronically to the Requestor informing him of Capital Metro's decision to seek a decision from the Attorney General regarding the (**See Exhibit "B"**).

Capital Metro believes the information requested is protected from disclosure under the following sections of the Act:

**Section 552.101** Information Confidential by Law, which provides that information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision. Some of the information identified as potentially responsive to the request is confidential under the Texas Homeland Security Act, specifically, Section 418.181, Government Code. Section 418.181 provides that "Those documents or portions of documents in the possession of a governmental entity are confidential if they identify the technical details of particular vulnerabilities of critical infrastructure to an act of terrorism."

The Requestor wants Capital Metro to provide a copy of its passenger train system ("**MetroRail**") Emergency Preparedness Plan ("**EPREP**") which was submitted to and

approved by the Federal Railroad Administration in accordance with Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (**49 CFR**), Parts 238 and 239, Passenger Train Emergency Preparedness. The purpose of the planning document is to reduce the magnitude and severity of casualties in Capital Metro's passenger train operations by ensuring the railroad can effectively and efficiently manage emergencies. The release of this document compromises security of passengers and staff who use MetroRail services. Release of the EPREP compromises security and creates a significant risk for criminals or terrorists to determine which parts of the plan, including, emergency coordination strategy, could lead to vulnerability in Capital Metro's infrastructure or emergency response capabilities, and allow criminals or terrorists to defeat being detected or recorded. Furthermore, this information is Security Sensitive Information under Title 49 CFR, Part 1520, and this has been vetted previously with the Regional Surface Transportation Security Regional Inspector with the United States Department of Homeland Security.

In accordance with section 552.301(e) of the Texas Government Code, we are providing you a copy of the document responsive to the request for your review in consideration of the above-referenced exceptions. ("**See Exhibit C**"). We have highlighted those portions of the document that we believe fall within the applicable exceptions.

Capital Metro respectfully requests and awaits your decision with regard to release of this document. Please feel free to call me at (512) 369-6256 if I can be of further assistance or if you have any questions. Our fax number is (512) 389-7559.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. Williams".

Ayeola Williams  
Staff Attorney

Cc: Joseph Durso  
MuckRock News